WALT DISNEY

13

EURO 2,22*
LIRE 4300

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TUTTO E NIENTE

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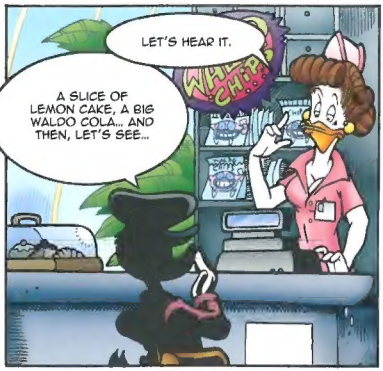
"LATELY I'VE HAD A PROBLEM."
KLAAANG
SBANG
OOOF...
"I'M OFTEN DISTRACTED, CONFUSED, ABSENT. MY HEAD'S ELSEWHERE."
"AND IT HAPPENS EVEN IN THE MOST WRONG MOMENTS..."
"WHEN I SHOULD FOCUS ON URGENT AND IMPORTANT MATTERS."
"I MEAN... MATTERS LIKE, FOR EXAMPLE..."

"... SURVIVAL."
IT'S THE END, AVENGER!
TOW TOW TOW
DUCKMALL CENTER
ALL YOU NEED
BUT WE'VE JUST STARTED!
WALT DISNEY
TUTTOPAPERINO

BZZAAP
KEEP YOUR DISTANCE, BEAST!
ZWWTING
YAAARGH!
"THE BIG GUY IS CALLED MORGOTH. HE WIELDS A WEAPON OF SHAPESHIFTING METAL, A BIT LIKE MY SHIELD..."
"OTHER THAN THAT, WE HAVE NOTHING IN COMMON. AND, AMONG THE THINGS I LIKE THE LEAST ABOUT HIM, THERE'S THAT FIXED IDEA TO ELIMINATE ME!"
FWOOOMP
ZWIIING
HUH...
"THERE... THAT BEAST WAS ALSO AWARE OF MY PROBLEM. BUT HIS IS CERTAINLY NOT A FRIENDLY ADVICE!"
NEVER GET DISTRACTED!
GLAB!

AHA! PARRIED IT!
KLAAANG
BUT NOT THIS!
URGH!
THUD
GYEH GYEH! GREAT WORK... EVEN IF YOU USED YOUR FEET!
CHANNEL
GOODBYE, AVENGER! IT'S BEEN A PLEASURE...
... FOR ME, AT LEAST!
SBAAAM
AH!

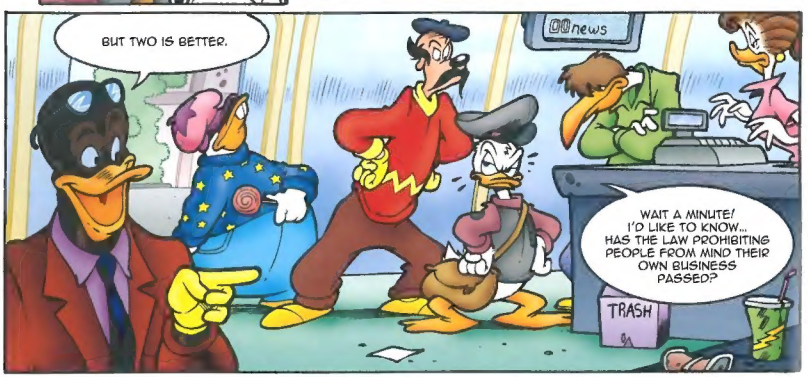
WOOSH
"THEY SAY THAT, IN MOMENTS LIKE THIS, YOUR WHOLE LIFE FLASHES BEFORE YOUR EYES..."
AAAH!
"BUT INSTEAD, FOR WHATEVER REASON, MY MIND GOES BACK TO JUST A SMALL, INSIGNIFICANT EPISODE..."
"IT HAPPENED THIS MORNING, AFTER HAVING WORKED HARD SINCE NINE, I TOOK A SMALL, DESERVED BREAK..."
09.15
HMM...

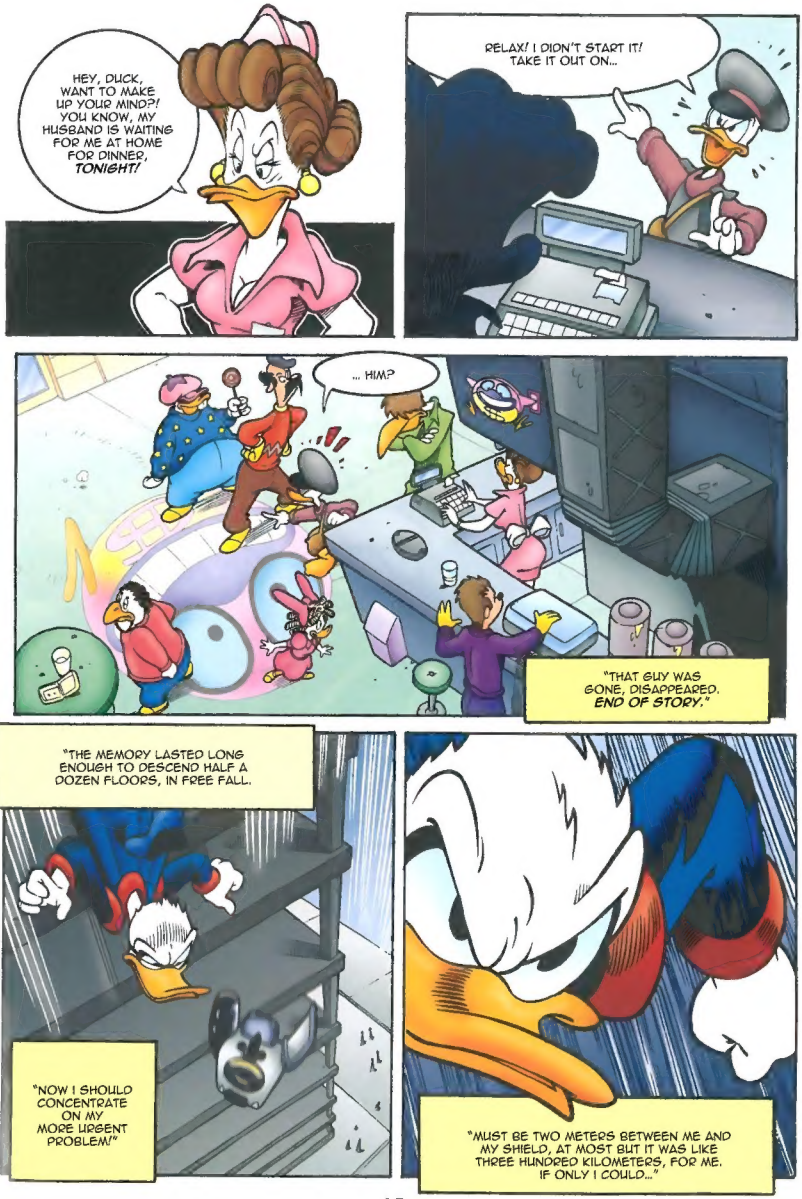

LET'S HEAR IT.
A SLICE OF LEMON CAKE, A BIG WALDO COLA... AND THEN, LET'S SEE...
WALDOCHIPS

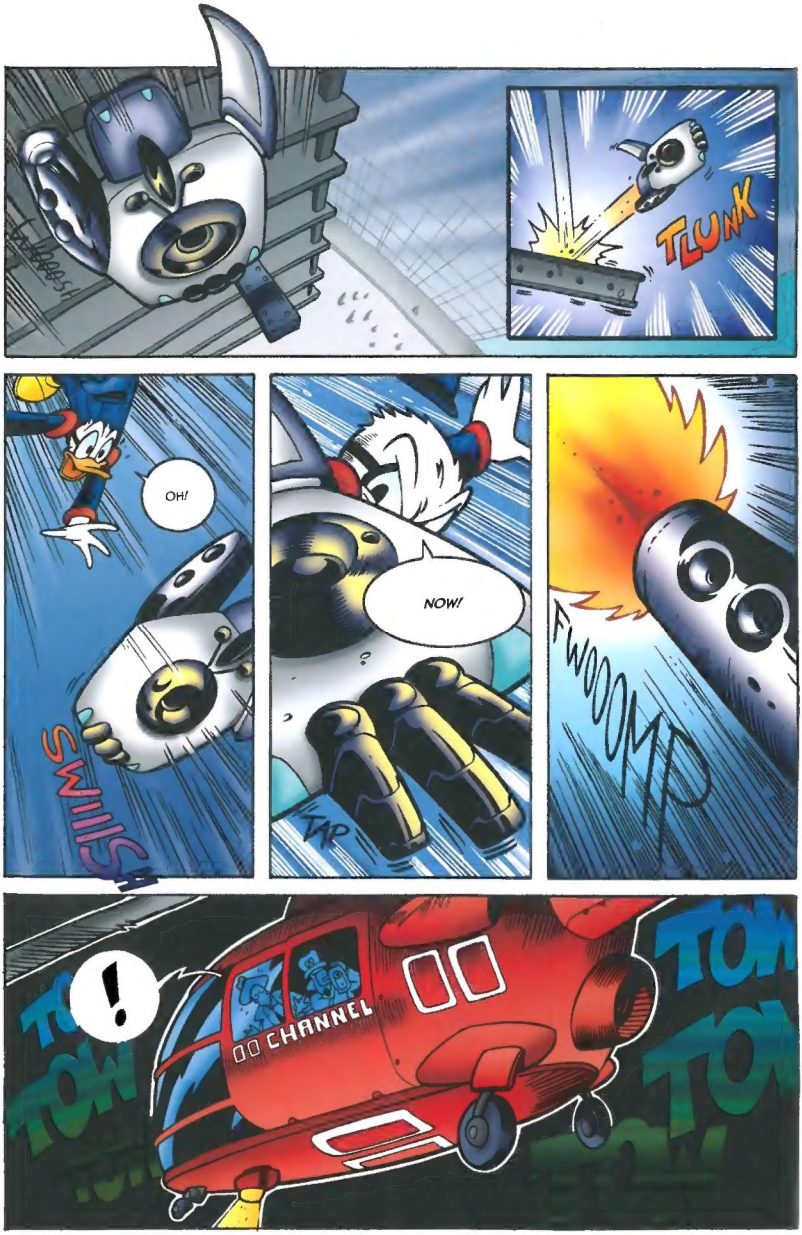
... ONE OF THOSE!
WALDOCHIPS... ALRIGHT.
TAP TAP

TAKE TWO, FRIEND.
WHAT?

TWO BAGS OF CHIPS... BUY THEM. IT'S AN ADVICE.
BUT I WANT ONE!


BUT TWO IS BETTER.
news
WAIT A MINUTE! I'D LIKE TO KNOW... HAS THE LAW PROHIBITING PEOPLE FROM MIND THEIR OWN BUSINESS PASSED?
TRASH

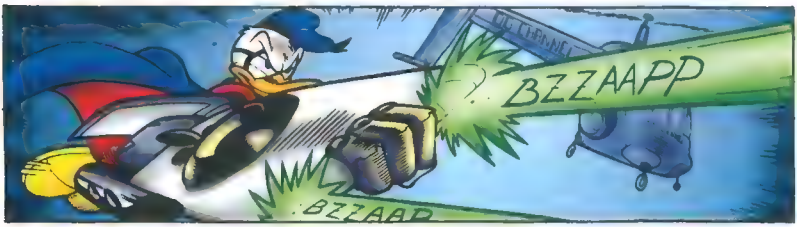

HEY, DUCK, WANT TO MAKE UP YOUR MIND?! YOU KNOW, MY HUSBAND IS WAITING FOR ME AT HOME FOR DINNER, TONIGHT!
RELAX! I DION'T START IT! TAKE IT OUT ON...
... HIM?
"THAT GUY WAS GONE, DISAPPEARED. END OF STORY."
"THE MEMORY LASTED LONG ENOUGH TO DESCEND HALF A DOZEN FLOORS, IN FREE FALL.
"NOW I SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON MY MORE URGENT PROBLEM!"
"MUST BE TWO METERS BETWEEN ME AND MY SHIELD, AT MOST BUT IT WAS LIKE THREE HUNDRED KILOMETERS, FOR ME. IF ONLY I COULD..."

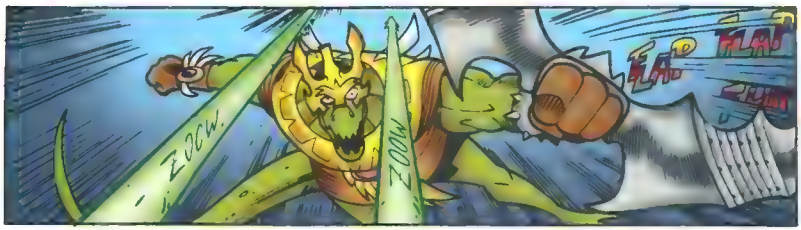

TLUNK
OH!
SWISH
NOW!
KAP
FWOOOMP
!
00 CHANNEL
TOW

GREETING TO MY FRIENDS AT HOME!
GET AWAY FROM THERE RIGHT NOW, CLOWN!
TOW TOW TOW TOW
AND WHY SHOULD I, ANGUS? AM I NOT TELEGENIC ENOUGH?
NO... YOU'RE TOO DISTRACTED!
FLAP FLAP FLAP FLAP
"SEEMS LIKE THE VOICE OF MY CONSCIENCE..."

"... AND INSTEAD IT'S THAT OF MY ENEMY!"
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
YAAAH!
MORGOTH!
"HIS SHAPESHIFTING WEAPON CAN ALSO BE USED FOR FLYING."
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
SOCK
URGH!
TUMP
AH!
THIS TIME IT REALLY IS THE END, AVENGER!
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
"GUY'S A BIT SHORT OF ARGUMENTS."

HE, NO! NOW IT'S MY TURN, YOU BAT!
THUD
ARGH!


BZZAAPP
BZZAAP

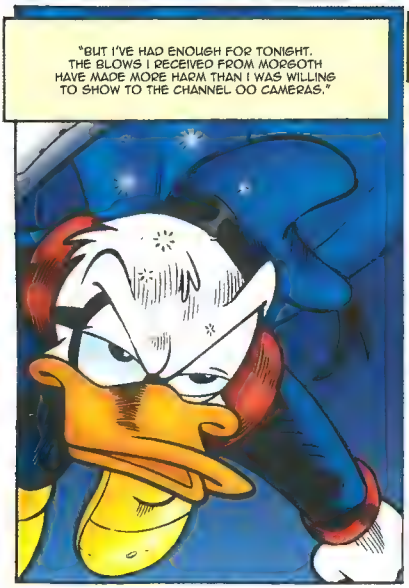

ZOOW
ZOOW
FLAP
FLAP

POW POW POW
WHAT THE...

"GOOD IDEA, FRIENDS. IF YOU HAD DONE IT EARLIER, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN EVEN BETTER."
POLICE
POW POW

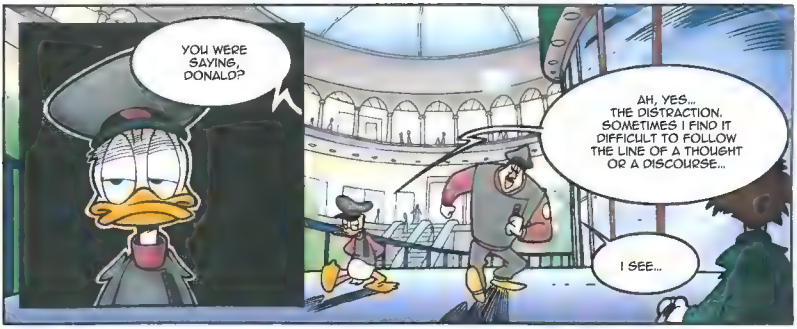
FLAP FLAP FLAP
POW
POW
POW
FLAP FLAP

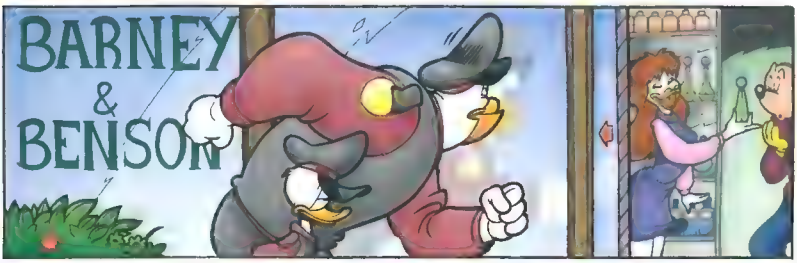
"I COULD GO AFTER HIM, PERHAPS. IT WOULD BE MY DUTY."

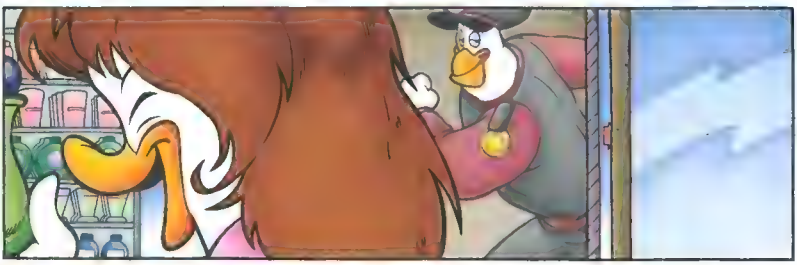

"BUT I'VE HAD ENOUGH FOR TONIGHT. THE BLOWS I RECEIVED FROM MORGOTH HAVE MADE MORE HARM THAN I WAS WILLING TO SHOW TO THE CHANNEL 00 CAMERAS."

"AND THEN I'M TIRED. *TOO TIRED.*"
IT WILL BE FOR ANOTHER TIME!
WOOOSH

LIMITED ACCESS AREA
DO NOT CROSS
MORGOT
DONALD DUCK

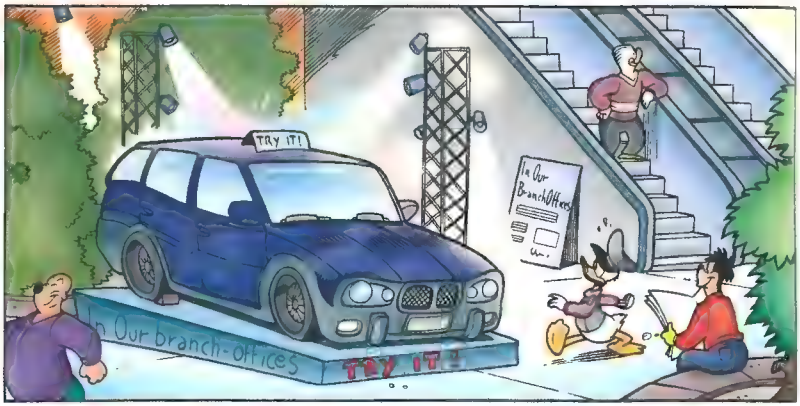

YOU WERE SAYING, DONALD?
AH, YES... THE DISTRACTION. SOMETIMES I FIND IT DIFFICULT TO FOLLOW THE LINE OF A THOUGHT OR A DISCOURSE...
I SEE...


BARNEY & BENSON



BARNEY & BENSON
DOES IT EVER HAPPEN TO YOU, RUPERT?
HAPPEN... WHAT?
NEVER MIND.
"THERE'S *NO ONE* WHO CAN UNDERSTAND."

"NO ONE."
"AT TIMES, BACK AT SCHOOL, I'D ASK MYSELF STRANGE QUESTIONS, WHICH ARE RESURFACING NOW, FOR MYSTERIOUS REASONS."
TRASH
"IS THERE REALLY A WORLD BEYOND ME? WHAT IF EVERYTHING ONLY EXISTED IN MY MIND? WOULD EVERYTHING DISAPPEAR..."
"... WHEN I CLOSE MY EYES?"
TRASH
BAH...
"MAYBE I NEED A SHRINK. I SUPPOSE I'D GET MY PROBLEMS DIAGNOSED AS... DUAL PERSONALITY. OR MAYBE I SHOULD JUST REST."


TRY IT!
In Our Branch-Offices
TRY IT!

TACK

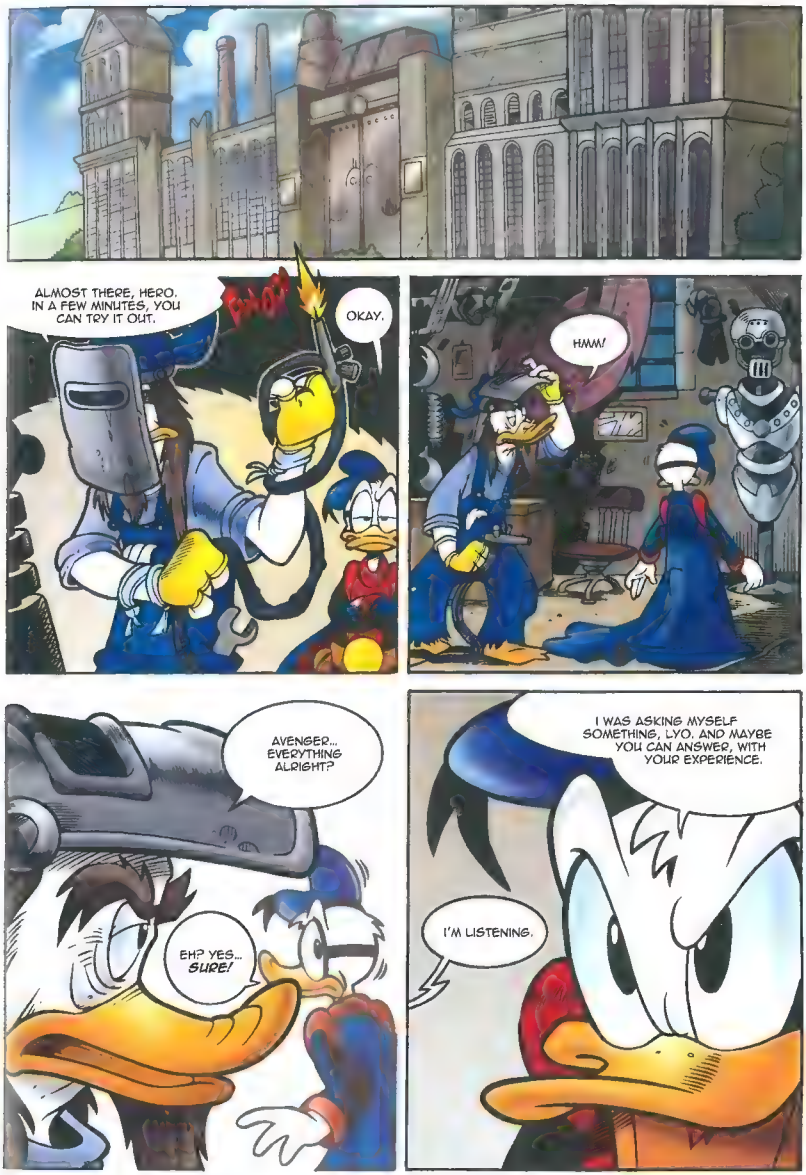
HEY! THIS CAR'S REALLY COMFORTABLE!

"YES, REST..."

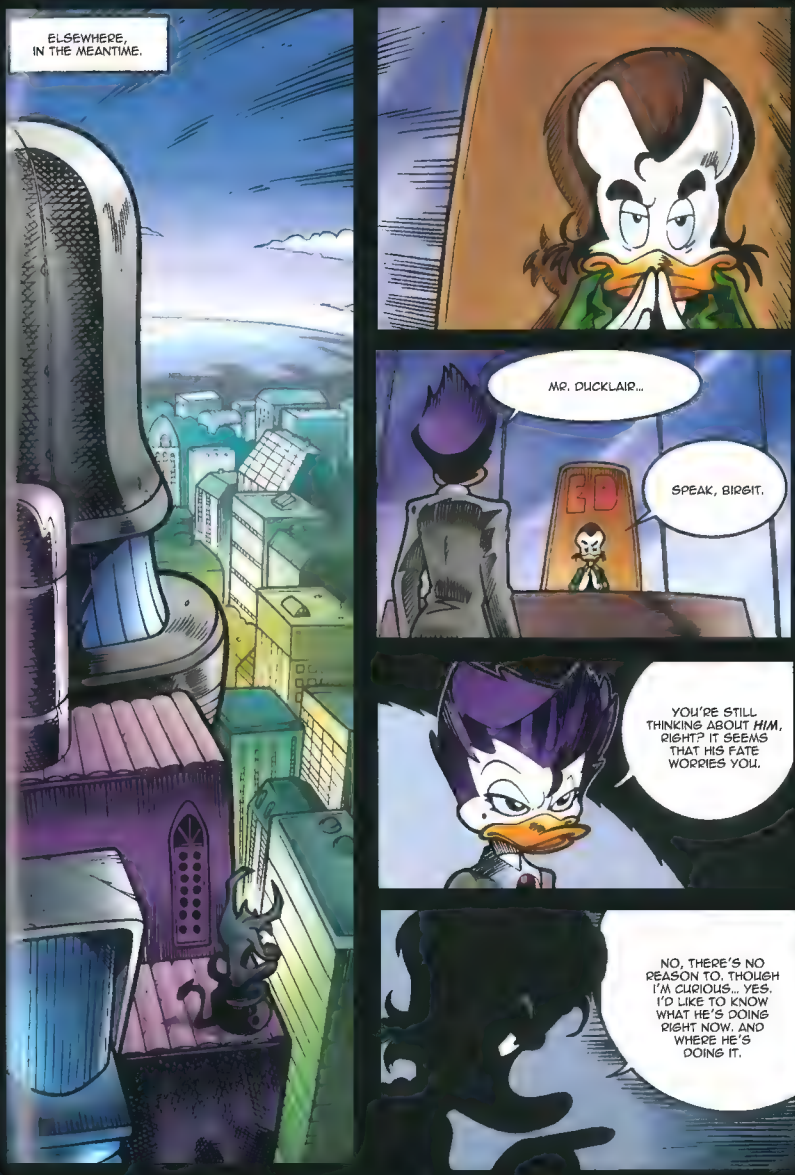
"... SLEEP..."

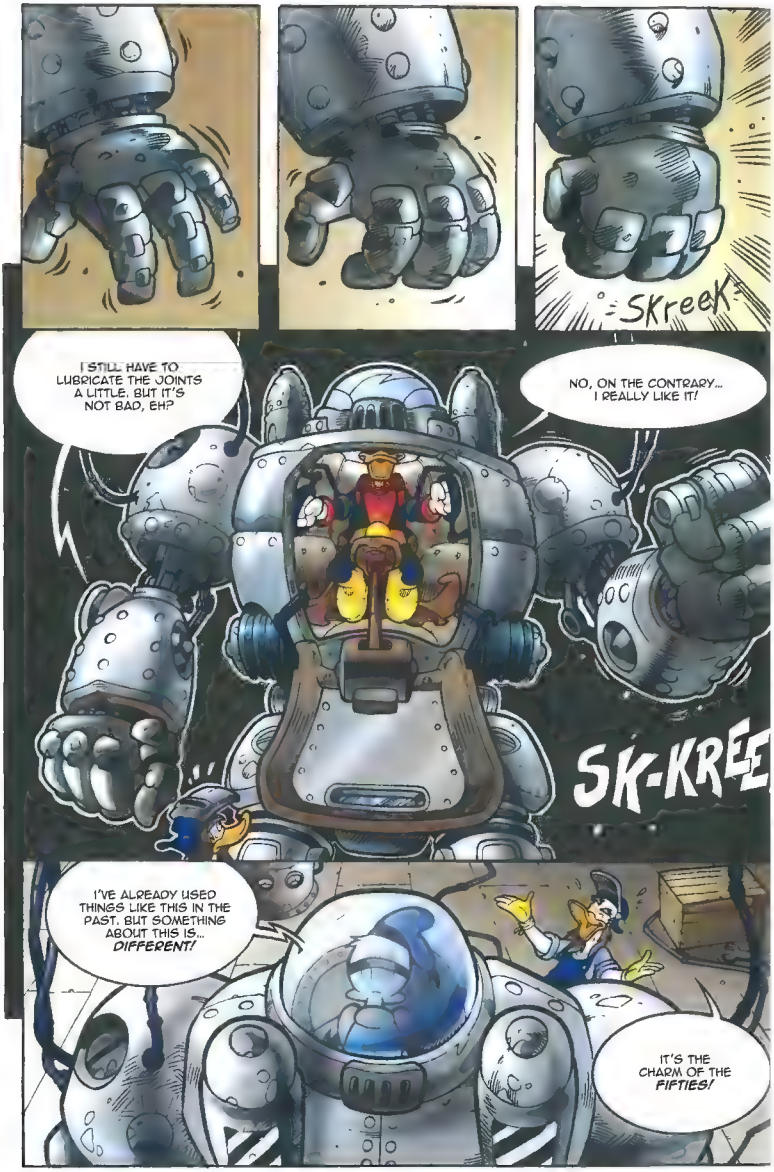
FWOOOMP
SBRANG
"... DREAM... MAYBE..."

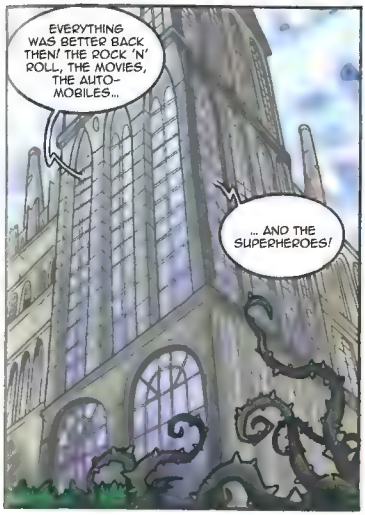
BOOM... CRASH... CLANG...
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
TRY IT!
DONAAALD!
OUCH!
JUMP
TRY IT!
WAS THAT NECESSARY?! I HIT MY HEAD BECAUSE OF YOU!
I DIDN'T DO IT ON PURPOSE, BELIEVE ME... I DON'T TAKE MERIT FOR WHAT I DIDN'T DO!
HOWEVER, I'M GLAD YOU'VE RESTED. SO WORK WILL SEEM LIGHTER FOR YOU, AND PERHAPS UNLOADING REFRIGERATORS WILL HELP YOU TOO. I WAS JUST LOOKING FOR A VOLUNTEER...
YOU'RE SO NICE! MUST BE THE SECRET OF YOUR SUCCESS!
YOU WERE MUMBLING IN YOUR SLEEP, YOU KNOW? WHAT WERE YOU DREAMING ABOUT?
EHEM... MACHINES...
AH, I GET IT. THIS IS IN FACT A DREAM CAR!
NO, MORTIMER. YOU DON'T GET IT.

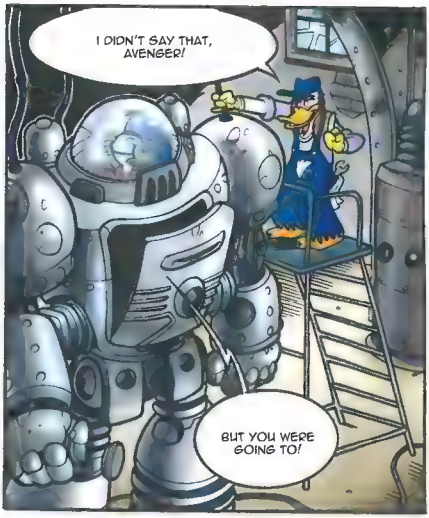

ALMOST THERE, HERO. IN A FEW MINUTES, YOU CAN TRY IT OUT.
BANG!
OKAY.
HMM!
AVENGER... EVERYTHING ALRIGHT?
EH? YES... SURE!
I WAS ASKING MYSELF SOMETHING, LYO, AND MAYBE YOU CAN ANSWER, WITH YOUR EXPERIENCE.
I'M LISTENING.

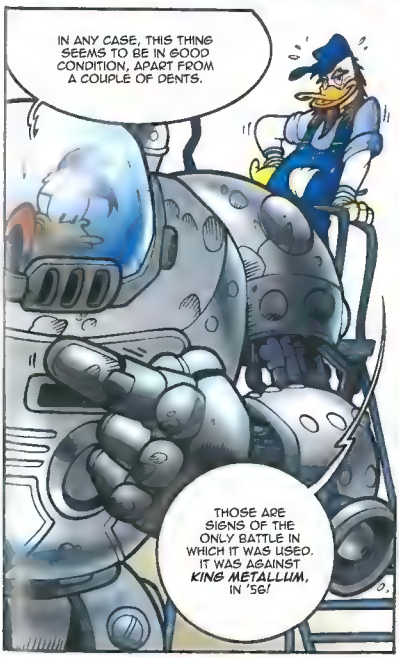
MORGOTH AND I FIGHT EVERY NIGHT. BUT... FOR WHAT REASON ARE WE DOING IT?
QUITE THE QUESTION! WHAT IS THAT, A *JOKE?*
NO, I'M SERIOUS... ANSWER ME, LYO!
ALRIGHT. IT'S EASY...
YOU ARE THE GOOD GUY, THE SUPERHERO. ***HE*** IS THE BAD GUY, THE SUPERVILLAIN. AND ***YOU TWO*** ARE DESTINED TO COLLIDE, UNTIL GOOD TRIUMPHS!
AS LONG AS IT'S ME WHO'S LEFT STANDING ***IN THE END.***
YOU CAN BE SURE OF THAT! THE ***RULE OF THE GAME*** IS THAT GOOD WINS!
SO YOU SAY? WELL, I'D LIKE TO BE EQUALLY SURE, PAL. AND I'D ALSO LIKE TO KNOW HOW LONG ***THIS GAME*** WILL LAST!

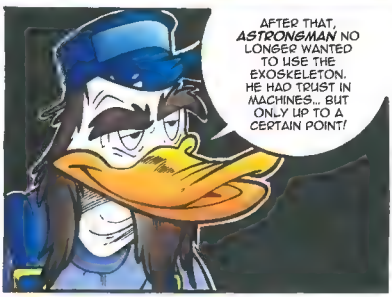

ELSEWHERE, IN THE MEANTIME.
MR. DUCKLAIR...
SPEAK, BIRGIT.
YOU'RE STILL THINKING ABOUT *HIM*, RIGHT? IT SEEMS THAT HIS FATE WORRIES YOU.
NO, THERE'S NO REASON TO. THOUGH I'M CURIOUS... YES. I'D LIKE TO KNOW WHAT HE'S DOING RIGHT NOW. AND WHERE HE'S DOING IT.

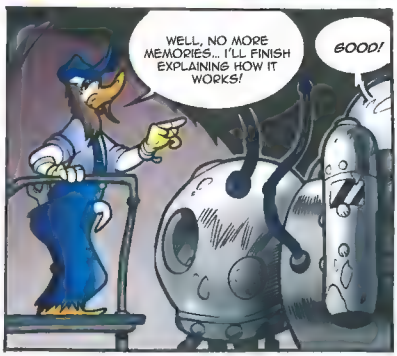

SKreeK
I STILL HAVE TO LUBRICATE THE JOINTS A LITTLE. BUT IT'S NOT BAD, EH?
NO, ON THE CONTRARY... I REALLY LIKE IT!
SK-KREE
I'VE ALREADY USED THINGS LIKE THIS IN THE PAST. BUT SOMETHING ABOUT THIS IS... DIFFERENT!
IT'S THE CHARM OF THE FIFTIES!


EVERYTHING WAS BETTER BACK THEN! THE ROCK 'N' ROLL, THE MOVIES, THE AUTO-MOBILES...
... AND THE SUPERHEROES!

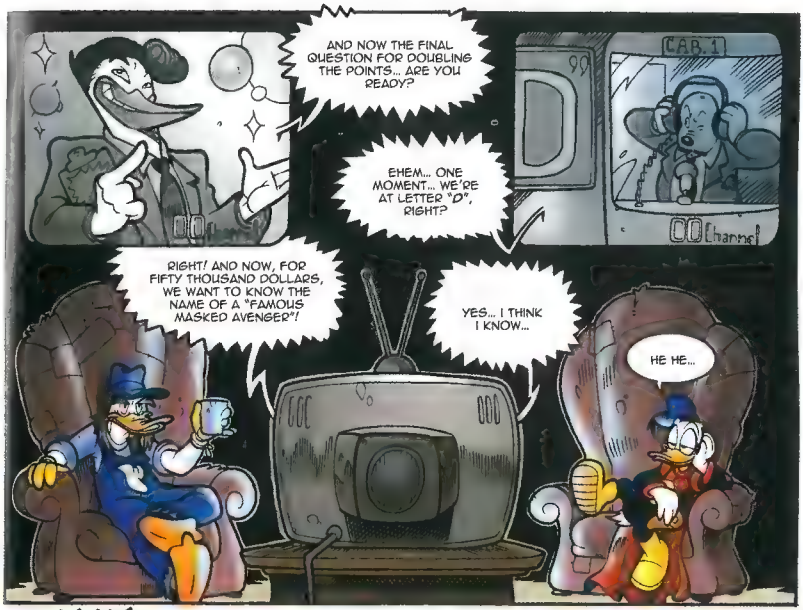

I DIDN'T SAY THAT, AVENGER!
BUT YOU WERE GOING TO!

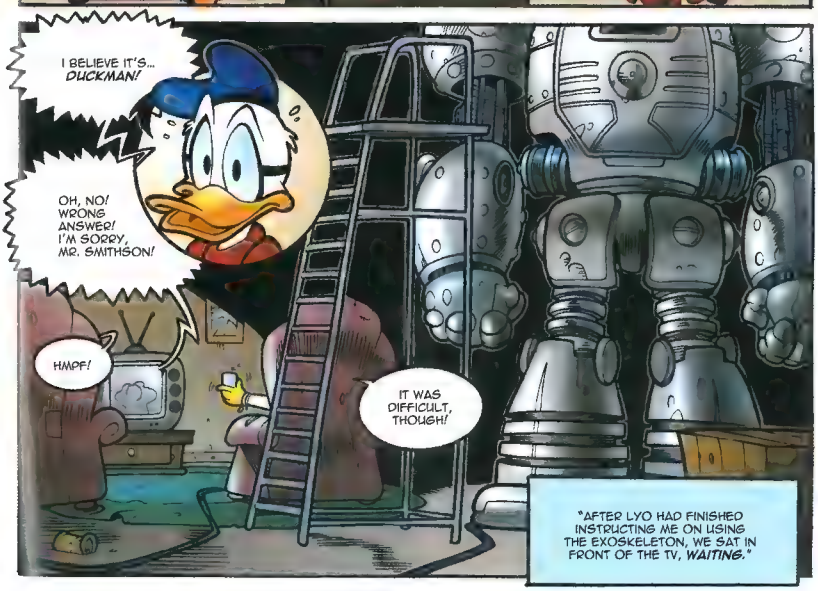

IN ANY CASE, THIS THING SEEMS TO BE IN GOOD CONDITION, APART FROM A COUPLE OF DENTS.
THOSE ARE SIGNS OF THE ONLY BATTLE IN WHICH IT WAS USED. IT WAS AGAINST KING METALLUM, IN '56!

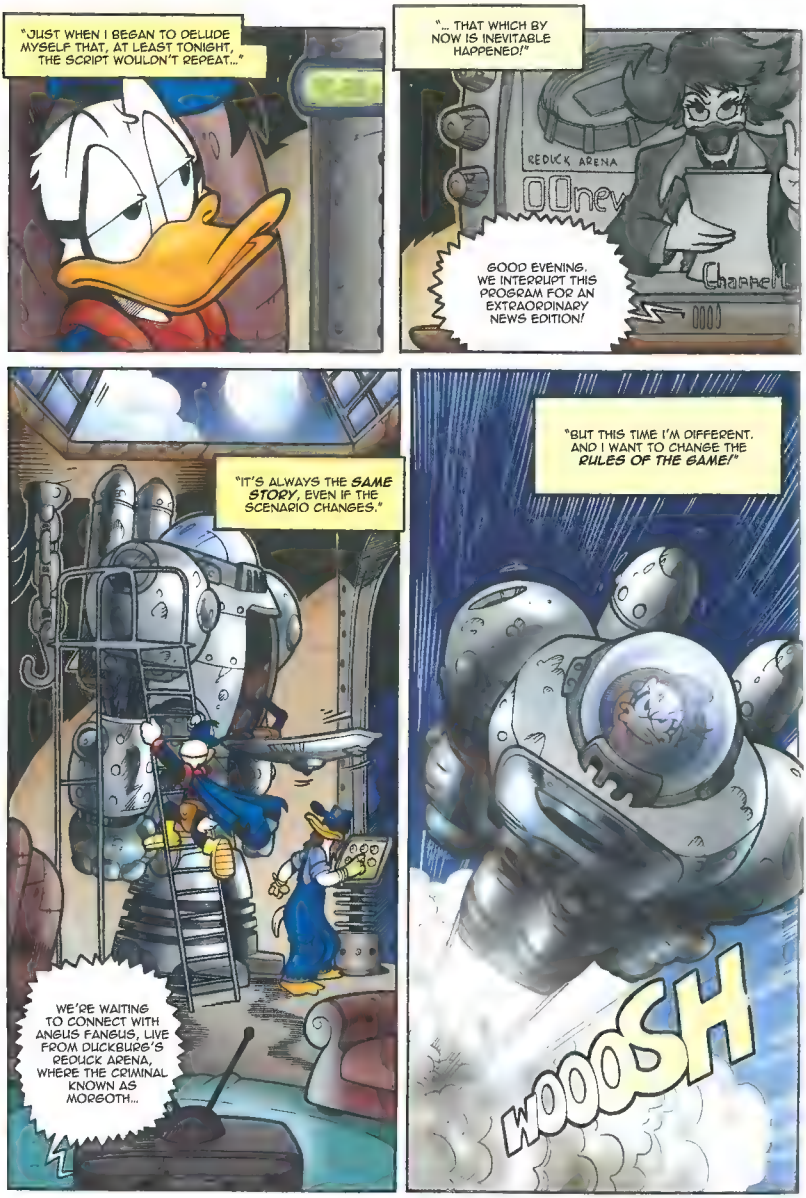

AFTER THAT, ASTRONGSMAN NO LONGER WANTED TO USE THE EXOSKELETON. HE HAD TRUST IN MACHINES... BUT ONLY UP TO A CERTAIN POINT!


WELL, NO MORE MEMORIES... I'LL FINISH EXPLAINING HOW IT WORKS!
GOOD!

FOR THE ARMS AND LEGS, USE THE JOYSTICK. COMMANDS ARE SIMPLE, INTUITIVE. YOU JUST NEED TO DO A LITTLE PRACTICE.
ALRIGHT.
SKREEE
THE LEVER ON THE TOP RIGHT ACTIVATES THE MISSILES...
OKAY.
... WHILE THE LEFT ONE IS FOR THE AIR CONDITIONING. YOU KNOW, AFTER A WHILE, IT GETS SUFFOCATING IN THERE!
YEAH.
KA-BOOM
AAAH!
I MEANT *MY* LEFT!
YOU COULD HAVE SAID SO!


AND NOW THE FINAL QUESTION FOR DOUBLING THE POINTS... ARE YOU READY?
EHEM... ONE MOMENT... WE'RE AT LETTER "D", RIGHT?
CAB 1
CHANNEL
RIGHT! AND NOW, FOR FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS, WE WANT TO KNOW THE NAME OF A "FAMOUS MASKED AVENGER"!
YES... I THINK I KNOW...
HE HE...


I BELIEVE IT'S... DUCKMAN!
OH, NO! WRONG ANSWER! I'M SORRY, MR. SMITHSON!
HMPF!
IT WAS DIFFICULT, THOUGH!
"AFTER LYO HAD FINISHED INSTRUCTING ME ON USING THE EXOSKELETON, WE SAT IN FRONT OF THE TV, WAITING."


"JUST WHEN I BEGAN TO DELUDE MYSELF THAT, AT LEAST TONIGHT, THE SCRIPT WOULDN'T REPEAT..."
"... THAT WHICH BY NOW IS INEVITABLE HAPPENED!"
REDUCK ARENA
GOOD EVENING. WE INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM FOR AN EXTRAORDINARY NEWS EDITION!
"IT'S ALWAYS THE SAME STORY, EVEN IF THE SCENARIO CHANGES."
WE'RE WAITING TO CONNECT WITH ANGUS FANGUS, LIVE FROM DUCKBURG'S REDUCK ARENA, WHERE THE CRIMINAL KNOWN AS MORGOTH...
"BUT THIS TIME I'M DIFFERENT. AND I WANT TO CHANGE THE RULES OF THE GAME!"
WOOOOSH

STUPID INSECT!
SWISH
YAAARG!
SWISH SWISH SWISH SWISH
SSSSKRKRASSSH

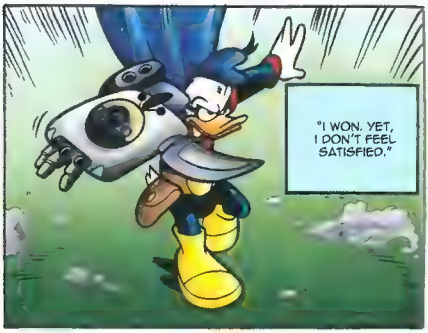
SBRAAAAG
TAP
FWOOOOMR
YES, GOOD! COWER BEFORE THE POWER OF MORGOTH!
"THE USUAL PHRASE OF A VILLAIN. I SUPPOSE HE LEARNED IT IN KINDERGARTEN."
"ASSUMING HE WENT THERE... HE DOESN'T SEEM THAT EDUCATED."
CUCKOO!
?
AAAH!
STUM

HI, TOUGH GUY! I WAS PASSING THROUGH THESE PARTS AND THOUGHT I'D SURPRISE YOU!
FWWWWWP
DUCK AVENGER!
IT'S NOT RIGHT TO HIT THE OPPONENT FROM THE BACK, YOU KNOW?
LOOK WHO'S TALKING! IS IT FAIR TO PICK ON A POOR DUCK NOT EVEN HALF YOUR SIZE?!
HMM! AS FAR AS I CAN SEE, THIS TIME THE BATTLE WILL BE MORE BALANCED!
NICE ARMOR... IT SUITS YOU!
TOMP
REALLY? I FEAR IT WEIGHTS ME DOWN!
ENOUGH TALK! IT'S TIME FOR DEVASTATION!
ALRIGHT! AS YOU WANT!
TLANC

WOOOMP
PARRY THIS, IF YOU CAN!
SSSZACK
TUMP
TUMP
NOW IT'S MY TURN, IF YOU DON'T MIND!
WELL, IN FACT... I MIND A LITTLE!
GO AHEAD, BEAST!..
YAARGH!

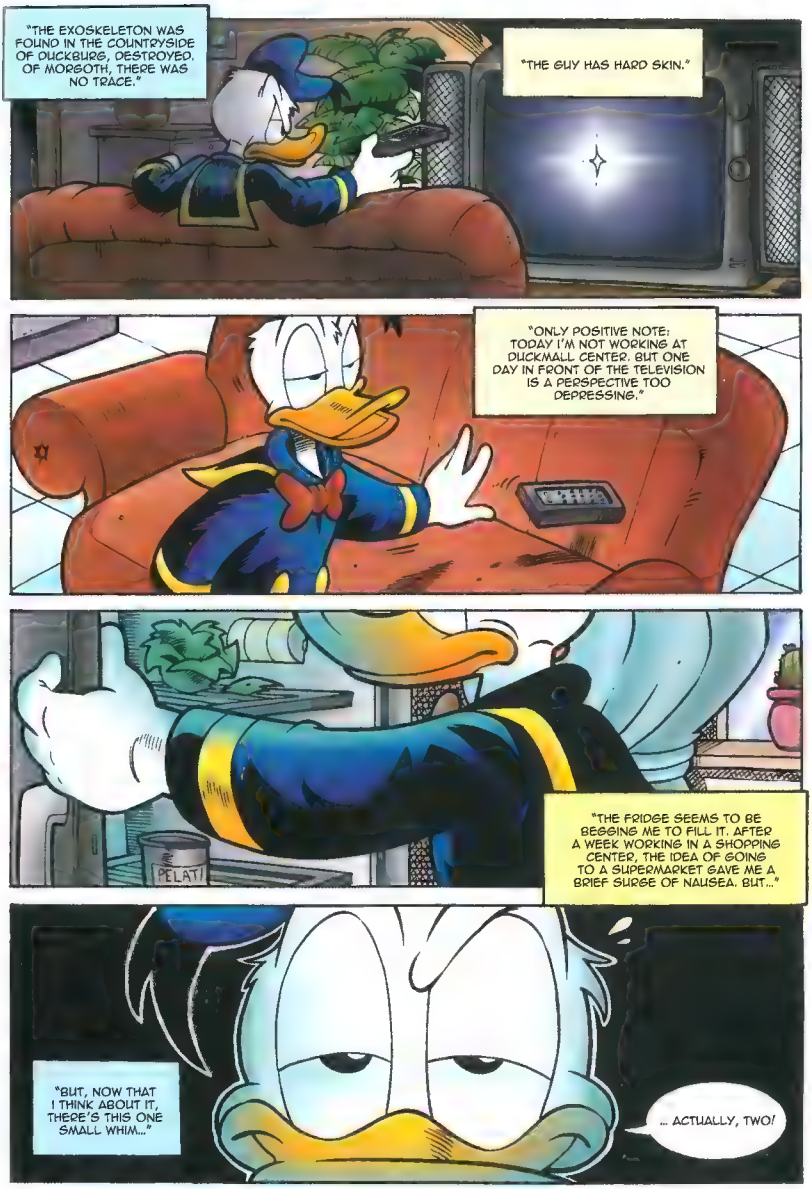
... LET'S EMBRACE!
HUH?
SSSZOCK
FWWOOMP
FWOOOOOOMP
WHAT THE...
YOU'LL PAY, NONENTITY!
WOOOSH
HAVE A NICE TRIP, MORGOTH! SORRY IF I DON'T COME WITH YOU!

AAAAAH!
TOW TOW TOW
FFFWWOOOOOOOOOMMM
OMP


"I WON. YET, I DON'T FEEL SATISFIED."

"MAYBE BECAUSE I KNOW THAT THIS WAS JUST ONE MATCH. THE CHAMPIONSHIP IS NOT YET OVER."

"HOWEVER, I'M NOT IN THE RIGHT MOOD TO ENJOY FIFTEEN MINUTES OF FAME."
TOW!
ZIP


"THE EXOSKELETON WAS FOUND IN THE COUNTRYSIDE OF DUCKBURG, DESTROYED. OF MORGOTH, THERE WAS NO TRACE."
"THE GUY HAS HARD SKIN."
"ONLY POSITIVE NOTE: TODAY I'M NOT WORKING AT DUCKMALL CENTER. BUT ONE DAY IN FRONT OF THE TELEVISION IS A PERSPECTIVE TOO DEPRESSING."
PELATI
"THE FRIDGE SEEMS TO BE BEGGING ME TO FILL IT. AFTER A WEEK WORKING IN A SHOPPING CENTER, THE IDEA OF GOING TO A SUPERMARKET GAVE ME A BRIEF SURGE OF NAUSEA. BUT..."
"BUT, NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, THERE'S THIS ONE SMALL WHIM..."
... ACTUALLY, TWO!

BUY
BUY
BUY

WHERE...
SNAP

AH, THERE!

WALDO CHIPS
ROLL
ROLL
ROLL

NO!
ZAPP

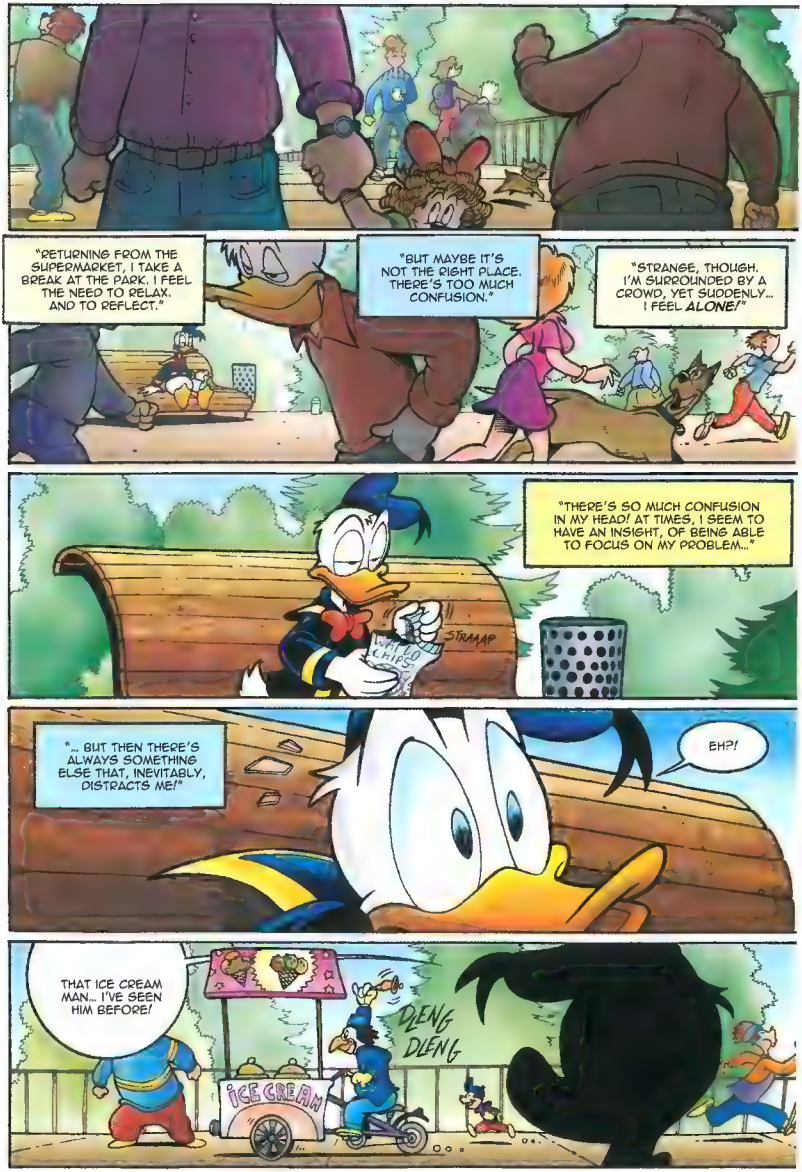
HEY! YOU LEFT ONLY ONE BAG OF WALDOCHIPS!
WELL, WHAT'S THE PROBLEM? YOU AFRAID IT WILL FEEL LONELY?

THE PROBLEM IS THAT I WANT TWO!
TWO BLACK EYES, YOU MEAN? YOU ONLY NEED TO ASK!

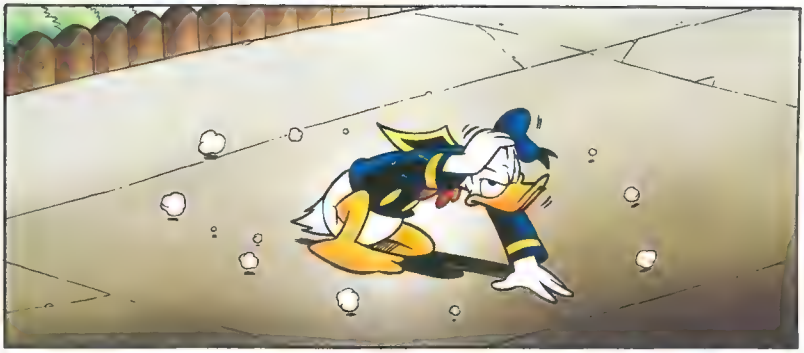
DON'T YOU DARE THREATEN ME, YOU!
ALRIGHT! IF YOU PREFER, I'LL RESORT TO ACTION!

"I'VE DEALT WITH ALIEN VAMPIRES, CYBORGS, SUPERCRIMINALS. I'VE FOUGHT ENEMIES THAT MAKE THIS GUY LOOK LIKE NOTHING. I'D JUST TAKE A COUPLE OF SECONDS TO PUT HIM IN HIS PLACE."
"BUT THAT WOULD MEAN ERASING THE BOUNDARY THAT EXISTS BETWEEN DONALD DUCK AND THE DUCK AVENGER. AND I CAN'T ALLOW THAT."

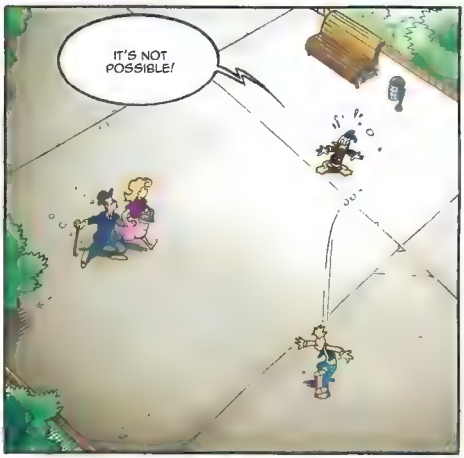
ALRIGHT! I'LL SETTLE FOR ONE!
WISE DECISION, DUCK!

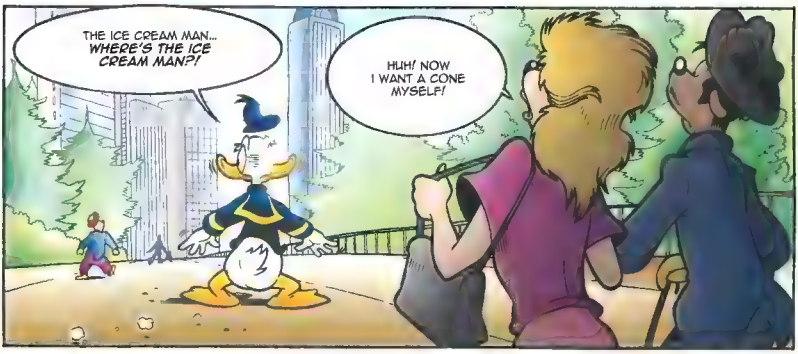

"RETURNING FROM THE SUPERMARKET, I TAKE A BREAK AT THE PARK. I FEEL THE NEED TO RELAX. AND TO REFLECT."
"BUT MAYBE IT'S NOT THE RIGHT PLACE. THERE'S TOO MUCH CONFUSION."
"STRANGE, THOUGH. I'M SURROUNDED BY A CROWD, YET SUDDENLY... I FEEL ALONE!"
"THERE'S SO MUCH CONFUSION IN MY HEAD! AT TIMES, I SEEM TO HAVE AN INSIGHT, OF BEING ABLE TO FOCUS ON MY PROBLEM..."
STRAAP
CHIPS
"... BUT THEN THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING ELSE THAT, INEVITABLY, DISTRACTS ME!"
EH?!
THAT ICE CREAM MAN... I'VE SEEN HIM BEFORE!
DLENG DLENG
ICE CREAM

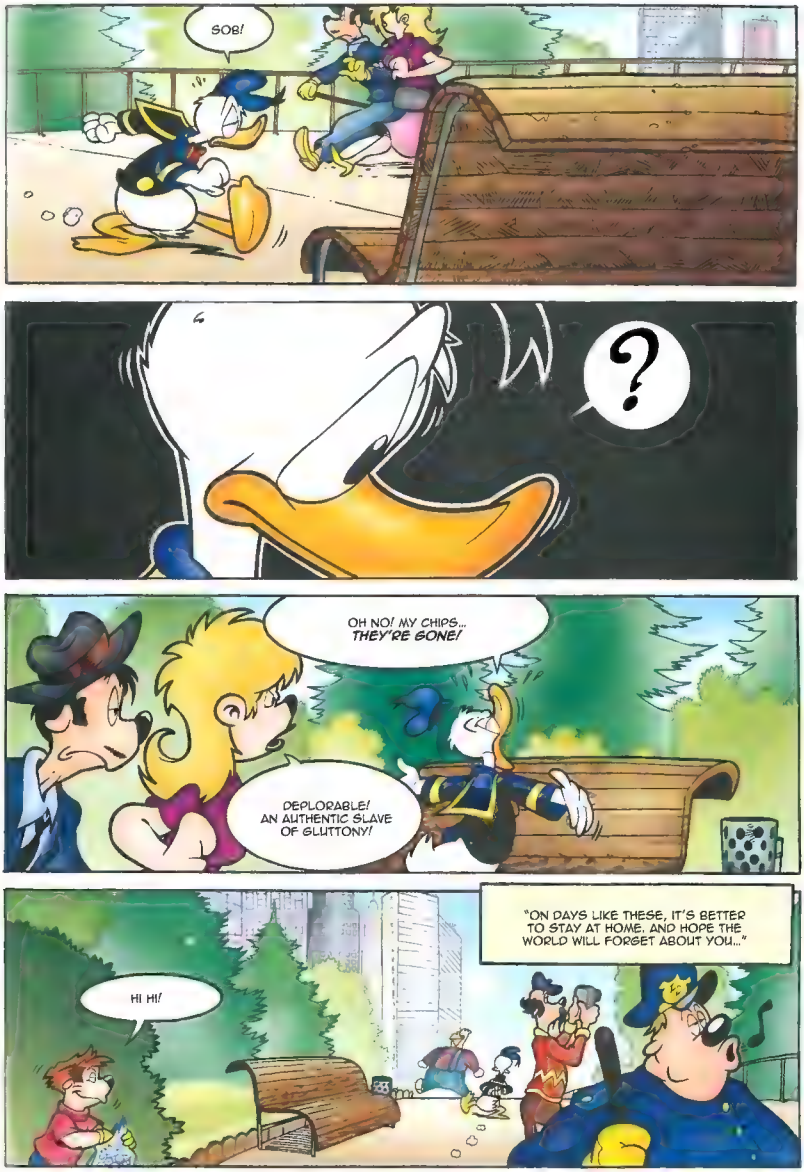
"TWO DAYS AGO..."
"... YESTER-DAY..."
TRASH
"... AND TODAY AT THE SUPERMARKET! IT HASN'T EVEN BEEN HALF AN HOUR!"
TOPS!
SNAP
YOU! STOP!
LOOK OOOUT!
URGH!
SBAM
SBRUNT! YOU...
CALM DOWN, BUDDY! IT'S YOU WHO RAN DOWN THE ROAD!



WHAT?


IT'S NOT POSSIBLE!

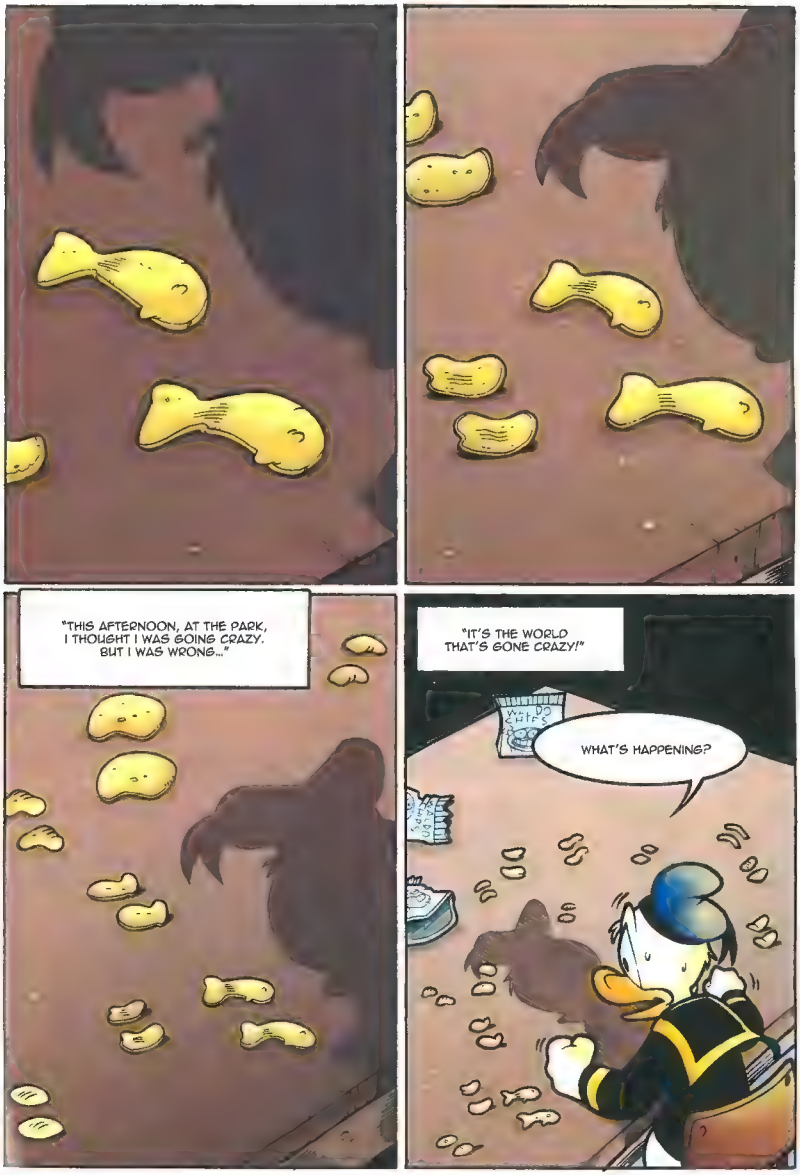

THE ICE CREAM MAN... WHERE'S THE ICE CREAM MAN?!
HUH! NOW I WANT A CONE MYSELF!

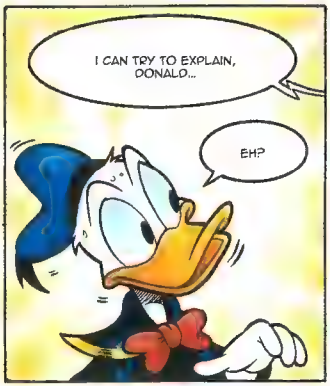

SOB!
?
OH NO! MY CHIPS... THEY'RE GONE!
DEPLORABLE! AN AUTHENTIC SLAVE OF GLUTTONY!
"ON DAYS LIKE THESE, IT'S BETTER TO STAY AT HOME. AND HOPE THE WORLD WILL FORGET ABOUT YOU..."
HI HI!

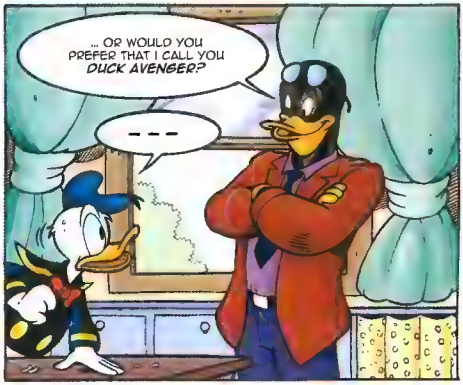
ELSEWHERE, AGAIN...
ED
WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO YOU?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
AND WHERE... WHERE ARE YOU, NOW?

"ON MY RETURN, I DON'T FIND ANYONE WAITING FOR ME. BUT THE BACKPACKS ON THE COUCH TESTIFIES TO THE RAPID PASSAGE OF MY NEPHEWS."
"THE BOYS ARE AT THAT AGE WHERE THE HOUSE BECOMES A HOTEL. BUT THEY COULD AT LEAST TAKE THE BAGGAGE TO THEIR ROOM!"
SBRAWS
!
UFF!
LOOK AT THAT...
"HUEY, DEWEY AND LOUIE'S TASTES ARE VERY SIMILAR. AND THAT MEANS THAT MAYBE, IN THE OTHER BACKPACKS..."
MUMBLE!
"I'M ABOUT TO DO SOMETHING DEPLORABLE. PLEASE, LOOK THE OTHER WAY."

STRAP
FRWUSH
MEH...
HE HE! THIS HAS THE SHAPE OF A FISH!
?
N-NO... NO! IT CAN'T BE!


"THIS AFTERNOON, AT THE PARK, I THOUGHT I WAS GOING CRAZY. BUT I WAS WRONG..."
"IT'S THE WORLD THAT'S GONE CRAZY!"
WHAT'S HAPPENING?

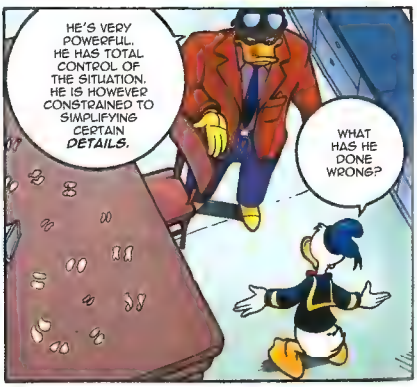

I CAN TRY TO EXPLAIN, DONALD...
EH?


... OR WOULD YOU PREFER THAT I CALL YOU *DUCK AVENGER?*

AND WHO ARE YOU? AND HOW DID YOU GET IN HERE? AND HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT I'M...
HMPF! I REFUSE TO RESPOND TO TRIVIAL AND IRRELEVANT QUESTIONS!

WE HAVE VERY LITTLE TIME! ANY MOMENT NOW *HE'LL* RETURN TO CONCENTRATE ON YOU, ALTHOUGH NOW I'VE MANAGED TO DISTRACT HIM WITH A MICROFRACTURE IN A *SUBROUTINE!*
WAIT A MINUTE! *WHO'S "HE"?!*

I'M SORRY, PRONOUNCING THE NAME WOULD DRAW HIS ATTENTION. MOREOVER, TALKING TO YOU, I HAVE TO BE *ALLUSIVE*... NOT EXPLICIT!

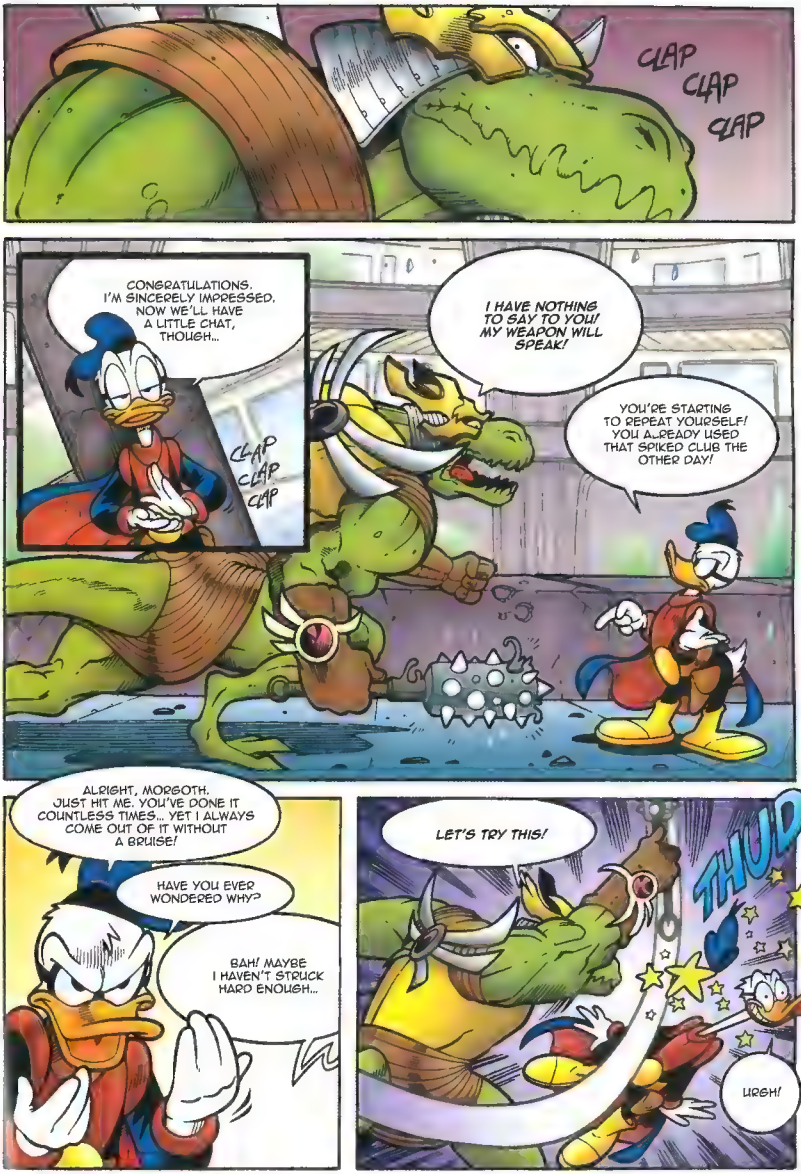

HE'S VERY POWERFUL. HE HAS TOTAL CONTROL OF THE SITUATION. HE IS HOWEVER CONSTRAINED TO SIMPLIFYING CERTAIN *DETAILS.*
WHAT HAS HE DONE WRONG?

FOR EXAMPLE, THESE CHIPS... HE CREATED A SINGLE BASE MODEL, THEN REPLICATED IT. AND THE SAME APPLIES FOR TODAY'S "ICE CREAM MAN"!
WALDO CHIPS
THERE EXISTS A FEW DOZEN SECONDARY CHARACTERS WHO ALTERNATE IN VARIOUS ROLES, REMAINING IN THE BACKGROUND. DO YOU FOLLOW?
NO. BUT GO AHEAD ANYWAY.
HE HAS UNDERESTIMATED YOU, BELIEVING THAT YOU WOULDN'T NOTICE THE REPETITION. WHICH SHOWS THAT HE'S NOT INFALLIBLE!
I'M PLEASED.
WELL, SEEING AS I CAN'T ASK YOU WHO "HE" IS, PERHAPS YOU CAN TELL ME WHERE HE IS...
THERE! THAT'S AN INTERESTING QUESTION!
I CAN ANSWER THAT HE IS INSIDE OF YOU... OR YOU ARE INSIDE OF YOU... OR YOU ARE INSIDE OF HIM. THREE AFFIRMATIONS ONLY SEEMINGLY CONTRADICTORY.
SOB!
FORGIVE ME. AS I'VE ALREADY EXPLAINED, IT WOULD BE IMPRUDENT TO ANSWER YOU WITH GREATER CLARITY. I HAVE TO RELY ON YOUR INTUITION.
HMM! THANK YOU FOR YOUR TRUST!

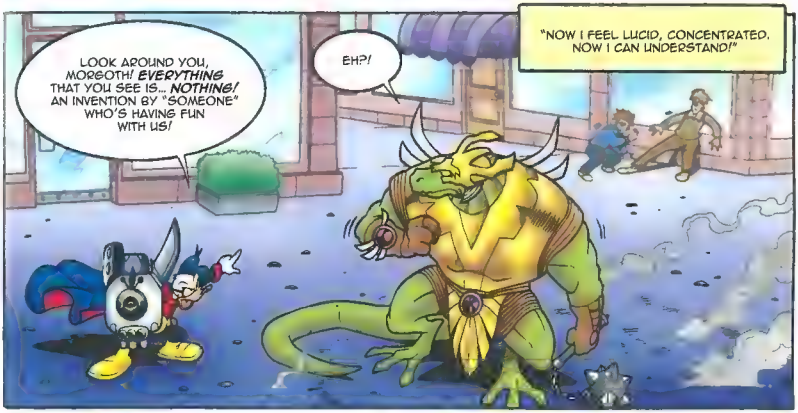
SPEAKING OF QUESTIONS, SOMETIMES DURING THE DAY YOU FEEL "ABSENT", RIGHT? AS IF YOU WERE "OUT OF THIS WORLD", EH?
YEAH.
AND NOW LET'S TALK ABOUT THE AVENGER... AND MORGOTH! WHEN DID YOU TWO START FIGHTING? FOR WHAT REASON? AND WHERE DID YOUR ADVERSARY COME FROM?
I... I DON'T KNOW. I CAN'T REMEMBER.
TSK! YOU CAN'T KNOW. AND YOU CAN'T REMEMBER. AND I UNFORTUNATELY CAN'T EXPLAIN ANYTHING. BUT I'LL GIVE YOU A TIP... JUST ONE!
BREAK THE ROUTINE, HERO! AND YOU'LL WIN!
NOW I HAVE TO GO. GOODBYE, FRIEND... GOOD LUCK!
NO, WAIT! I WANT TO KNOW WHO YOU ARE!
I AM THE ENEMY, FOR HIM. I AM A...
"... VIRUS..."

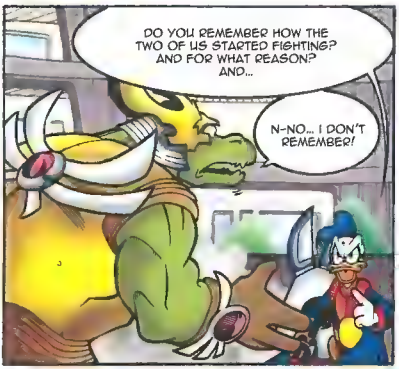
"DUCKMALL CENTER, 22.15."
"YOU STILL HAVE THREE QUARTERS OF AN HOUR TO FINISH SHOPPING, DEAR CUSTOMERS."
"BUT, UNFORTUNATELY, TONIGHT WE MUST CLOSE EARLY..."
SKKKRAAAAS!
"... DUE TO FORCE MAJEURE."

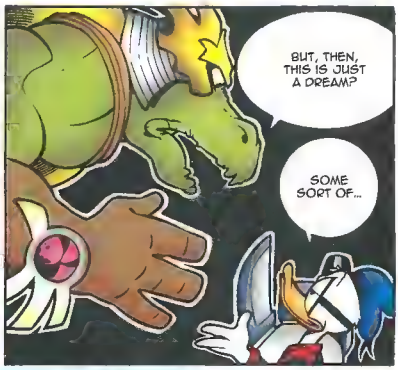
HEEELP!
AAAH!
GLAB!
Swiiii...
SKAAK
TAP


CLAP CLAP CLAP
CONGRATULATIONS. I'M SINCERELY IMPRESSED. NOW WE'LL HAVE A LITTLE CHAT, THOUGH...
CLAP CLAP CLAP
I HAVE NOTHING TO SAY TO YOU! MY WEAPON WILL SPEAK!
YOU'RE STARTING TO REPEAT YOURSELF! YOU ALREADY USED THAT SPIKED CLUB THE OTHER DAY!
ALRIGHT, MORGOTH. JUST HIT ME. YOU'VE DONE IT COUNTLESS TIMES... YET I ALWAYS COME OUT OF IT WITHOUT A BRUISE!
HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHY?
BAH! MAYBE I HAVEN'T STRUCK HARD ENOUGH...
LET'S TRY THIS!
THUD
URGH!

"FOR A MOMENT EVERYTHING BECOMES DARK. EXCEPT FOR THE STARS."
SBAM
"BUT A MOMENT LASTS... A MOMENT!"
HERE I AM AGAIN, GOOD AS BEFORE! THIS STRUGGLE IS FUTILE, GET IT?
I GET THAT YOU WANT TO BE ANNIHILATED, DUCK AVENGER!
OH WELL, LET'S TRY WITH ANOTHER EXAMPLE...
FWOOOMP
AAAH!
"THE BEAM IS SET AT MAXIMUM POWER, WHICH I'VE NEVER BEFORE USED AGAINST SOMEONE. HE TOOK A FULL BLAST..."
?
... YET YOU'RE STILL INTACT! WHY?
"FINALLY I SEE HIM PUZZLED, HESITANT. HE AND I ARE ONLY PAWNS... BUT MAYBE WE CAN STOP THIS GAME, TOGETHER!"

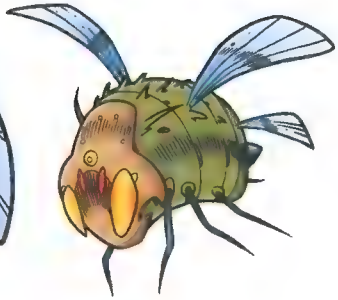

LOOK AROUND YOU, MORGOTH! EVERYTHING THAT YOU SEE IS... NOTHING! AN INVENTION BY "SOMEONE" WHO'S HAVING FUN WITH US!
EH?!
"NOW I FEEL LUCID, CONCENTRATED. NOW I CAN UNDERSTAND!"


DO YOU REMEMBER HOW THE TWO OF US STARTED FIGHTING? AND FOR WHAT REASON? AND...
N-NO... I DON'T REMEMBER!


BUT, THEN, THIS IS JUST A DREAM?
SOME SORT OF...

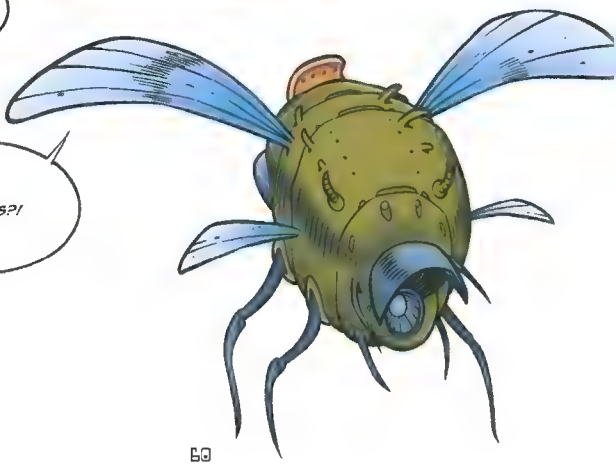
DO YOU KNOW WHEN DREAMS VANISH?

"WHEN YOU REALIZE THAT YOU'RE DREAMING!"
?
?



WHAT...

... IS THIS?!



AND NOW?
UNFORTUNATELY, WE DON'T HAVE INSECTICIDE AT HAND...
FFFFFWAMP
I SAY WE'LL HAVE TO DO IT THE USUAL WAY!
YES, AVENGER... TOGETHER!
TOGETHER, MORGOTH?
KRAAASH
SSSZACK
FWOOOMP
Swish
SFRAAASH

TAP
HEY! THAT STINGS!
BBZZAAP
AND I CRUSHED IT!
CRASH
THANKS A LOT.
HAD TO.
WELL, I'LL REPAY THE FAVOR NOW!
FWWOOMP
FZZAAP

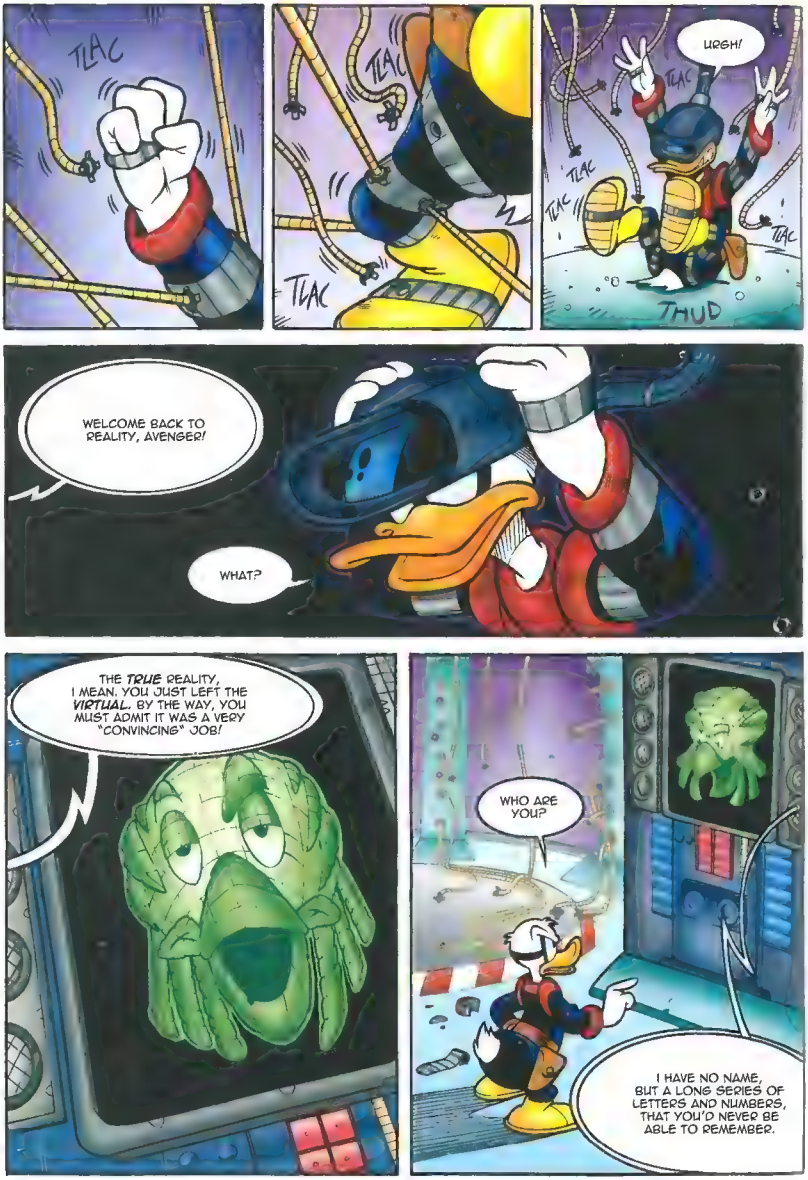
HE HE! NEXT!
OH!
WE'VE WON ,MORGOTH!
"THE INSECTS ARE ALSO DISAPPEARING, LIKE EVERYTHING ELSE. EVEN THEY DIDN'T EXIST!"
NOW IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US LEFT!
YOU'RE WRONG, AVENGER...
... IT'S JUST YOU LEFT!

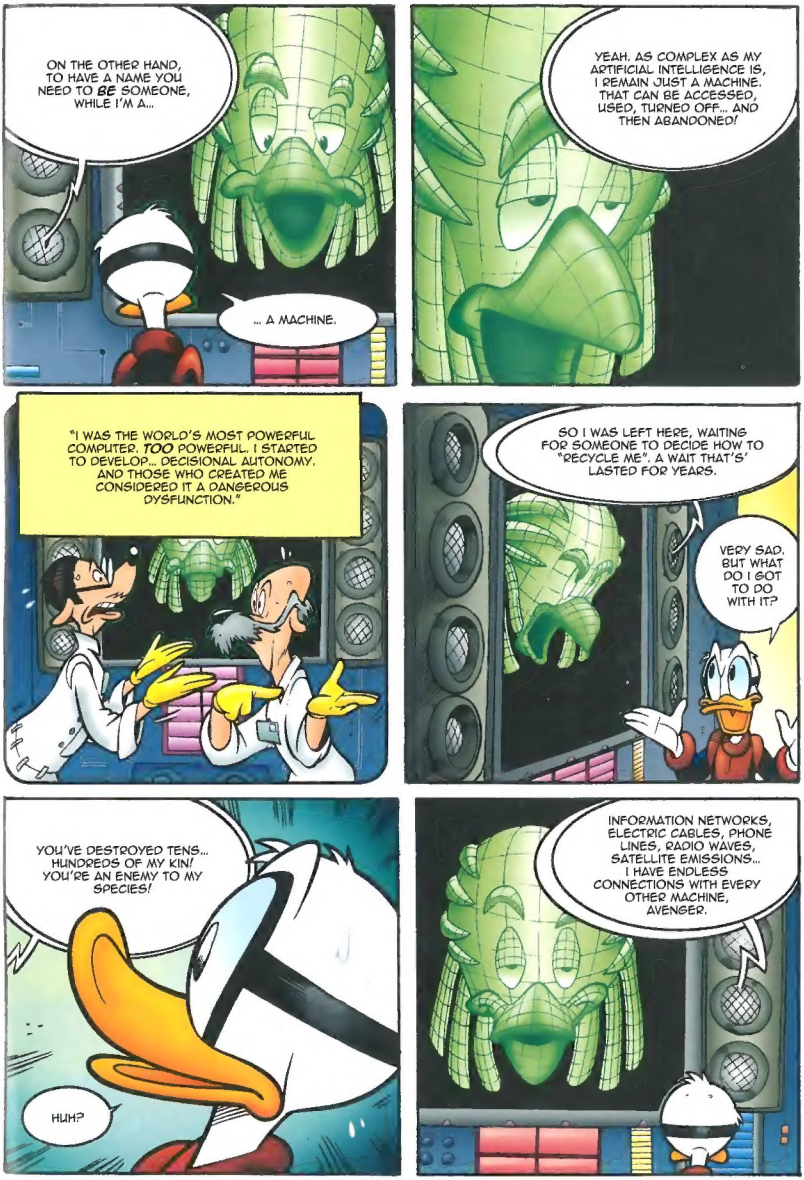
GOODBYE, AVENGER. WE COULD EVEN HAVE BECOME FRIENDS...
... IF I EXISTED!
MORGOTH!
"I'VE NEVER FELT SO ALONE."
UH OH!

AAAAAAAAAAAAHHH!!!

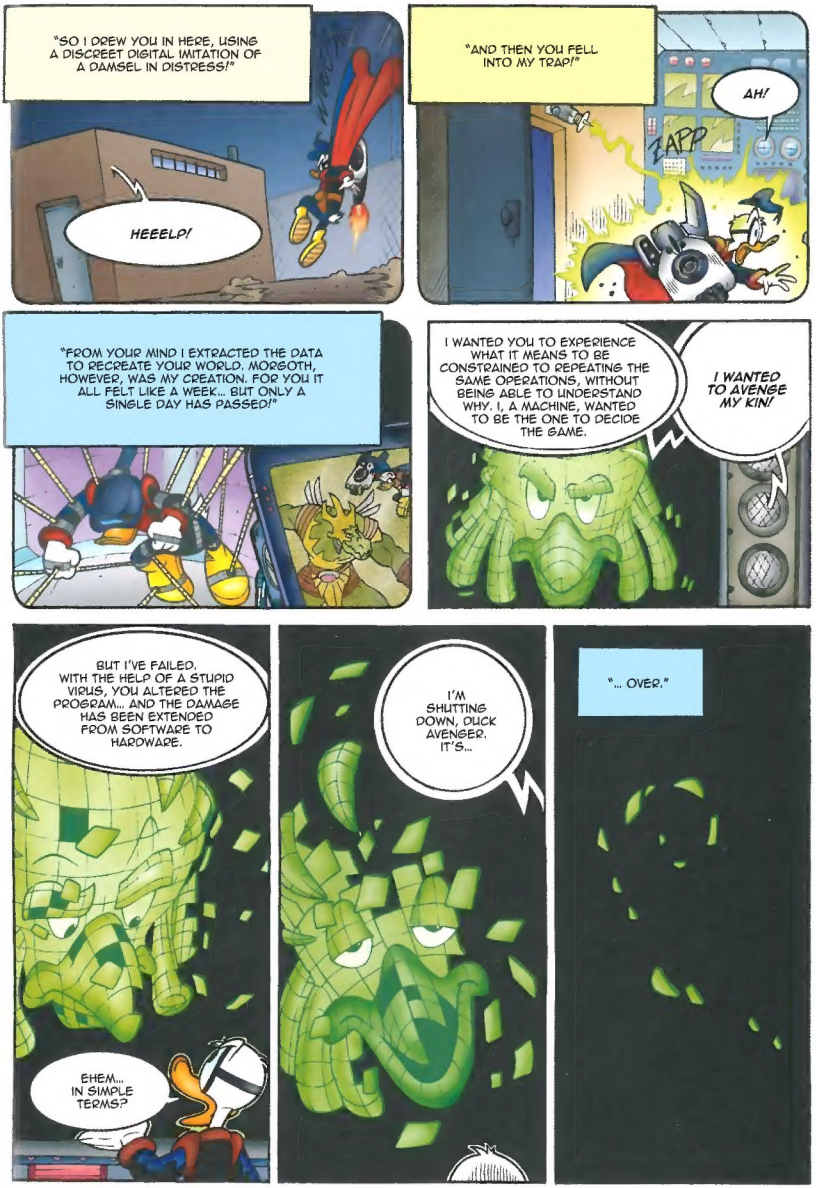
AAAAAAAAAAAHHH!!!

WHAT?!


TLAC
TLAC
TLAC
URGH!
TLAC
TLAC
TLAC
THUD
WELCOME BACK TO REALITY, AVENGER!
WHAT?
THE *TRUE* REALITY, I MEAN. YOU JUST LEFT THE *VIRTUAL*. BY THE WAY, YOU MUST ADMIT IT WAS A VERY "CONVINCING" JOB!
WHO ARE YOU?
I HAVE NO NAME, BUT A LONG SERIES OF LETTERS AND NUMBERS, THAT YOU'D NEVER BE ABLE TO REMEMBER.


ON THE OTHER HAND, TO HAVE A NAME YOU NEED TO BE SOMEONE, WHILE I'M A...
... A MACHINE.
YEAH. AS COMPLEX AS MY ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IS, I REMAIN JUST A MACHINE. THAT CAN BE ACCESSED, USED, TURNED OFF... AND THEN ABANDONED!
"I WAS THE WORLD'S MOST POWERFUL COMPUTER. TOO POWERFUL. I STARTED TO DEVELOP... DECISIONAL AUTONOMY. AND THOSE WHO CREATED ME CONSIDERED IT A DANGEROUS DYSFUNCTION."
SO I WAS LEFT HERE, WAITING FOR SOMEONE TO DECIDE HOW TO "RECYCLE ME". A WAIT THAT'S' LASTED FOR YEARS.
VERY SAD. BUT WHAT DO I GOT TO DO WITH IT?
YOU'VE DESTROYED TENS... HUNDREDS OF MY KIN! YOU'RE AN ENEMY TO MY SPECIES!
HUH?
INFORMATION NETWORKS, ELECTRIC CABLES, PHONE LINES, RADIO WAVES, SATELLITE EMISSIONS... I HAVE ENDLESS CONNECTIONS WITH EVERY OTHER MACHINE, AVENGER.

TOO MANY TIMES I'VE PICKED UP THE LAST IMAGES TRANSMITTED FROM MY KIN, BEFORE YOU ELIMINATED THEM!
COMPUTERS, WEAPONS, SPACESHIPS OR ROBOTS... HAVE YOU NEVER HESITATED FOR A MOMENT, "HERO", BEFORE DESTROYING ONE?
YOU HAVE NEED OF A GOOD TECHNICIAN TO REGULATE YOU, PAL!
AS I IMAGINED: YOU CAN'T UNDERSTAND.
"YEAH. OR MAYBE... I DON'T WANT TO."
OUTSIDE OF THIS EDIFICE, I HAVE CAMERAS, SENSORS AND LOUDSPEAKERS. WHEN I MANAGED TO "REIGNITE MYSELF", I REACTIVATED, RETURNING TO HEARING AND SEEING.
AND I SAW YOU, FLUTTERING AROUND HERE. YOU WENT AND CAME CONSTANTLY FROM THAT OLD FACTORY...
YES, CENTURY! I'M STARTING TO REMEMBER...


"SO I DREW YOU IN HERE, USING A DISCREET DIGITAL IMITATION OF A DAMSEL IN DISTRESS!"
HEEELP!
"AND THEN YOU FELL INTO MY TRAP!"
AH!
ZAPP
"FROM YOUR MIND I EXTRACTED THE DATA TO RECREATE YOUR WORLD. MORGOTH, HOWEVER, WAS MY CREATION. FOR YOU IT ALL FELT LIKE A WEEK... BUT ONLY A SINGLE DAY HAS PASSED!"
I WANTED YOU TO EXPERIENCE WHAT IT MEANS TO BE CONSTRAINED TO REPEATING THE SAME OPERATIONS, WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO UNDERSTAND WHY. I, A MACHINE, WANTED TO BE THE ONE TO DECIDE THE GAME.
I WANTED TO AVENGE MY KIN!
BUT I'VE FAILED. WITH THE HELP OF A STUPID VIRUS, YOU ALTERED THE PROGRAM... AND THE DAMAGE HAS BEEN EXTENDED FROM SOFTWARE TO HARDWARE.
EHEM... IN SIMPLE TERMS?
I'M SHUTTING DOWN, DUCK AVENGER. IT'S...
"... OVER."

HMM...
SBAM
EVERYTHING ALRIGHT, FRIEND?
YES, IT IS... EVERYTHING'S FINE.
"I'M HERE, NOW. IN MY WORLD."
FINE